DC COMICS™
FOREVER EVIL™
THE NEW 52!
6 of 7
GEOFF JOHNS
DAVID FINCH
RICHARD FRIEND
FINCH 2013
NIGHTWING'S LAST STAND!
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MAY 2014

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NIGHTWING'S LAST STAND!

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THE LAST THING I EVER EXPECTED TO DO IN LIFE WAS WORK ALONGSIDE SUPERMAN TO SAVE THE WORLD.
THIS IS THE SECOND TO LAST.
HAPPY HARBOR, RHODE ISLAND.
THE LEAGUE'S SATELLITE IS CRASHED ON THE BEACH THREE MILES AHEAD. WE USE THE MOTHER BOX TO BOOM ANY CLOSER AND THE WATCHTOWER'S SENSORS WILL REGISTER THE ENERGY DISTORTION AND ALERT THE SYNDICATE.
I'M TIRED OF ALWAYS BEING RIGHT.
AND WHAT ARE YOU RIGHT ABOUT THIS TIME, LUTHOR?
THE FACT IS, BATMAN, THERE WASN'T A SINGLE OCCURRENCE OF METAHUMAN VIOLENCE OR EXTRATERRESTRIAL OR INTERDIMENSIONAL INCURSION UNTIL YOU ALL SHOWED UP.
AND THEN WHEN WE NEEDED YOU MOST, YOUR LEAGUE WAS INFILTRATED AND MANIPULATED INTO UNLEASHING THESE MALEVOLENT DOPPELGANGERS FROM BEYOND.
YOU FAILED TO STOP YOURSELVES ON EVERY METAPHORICAL AND LITERAL LEVEL...

...WHICH IS WHY WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DO IT.
CAN WE AT LEAST GET OUT OF THE DAMN RAIN?
DON'T THINK THIS IS GOING TO EARN YOU ANY FAVOR WITH ME, LUTHOR.
MAYBE YOU SHOULDN'T ANTAGONIZE THEM ANY MORE.
WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON?
THE SIDE OF US SURVIVING THIS.
AND YOU OWE ME DINNER AND A MOVIE IF WE DO.
I SUPPOSE AGGRAVATING BATMAN ISN'T GOING TO HELP THINGS.
BUT IT'S JUST SO EASY.
LET'S GET TO THE WATER. WE MOVE IN LIKE MANTA SUGGESTED...

"...AND WE HIT THE CRIME SYNDICATE BEFORE THEY KNOW WHAT DID."
YORK, MAINE.
IT LOOKS LIKE THE SKY IS BLEEDING.
IT'S COMING, JOHNNY.
PARANOID MUCH, ULTRAMAN?
YEAH! SO MAYBE THE THING DID SENSE POWER RING'S POWER FAILURE; SO WHAT? IF THAT CREATURE REALLY GOT A LOCK ON US, HE'D BE HERE BY NOW.
"THE RING IS STILL OUT THERE, ATOMICA, AND STILL POTENTIALLY ACTING AS A BEACON. WE NEED TO FIND IT AND DESTROY IT."
SUITABLE HOST LOCATED.
AND WE NEED TO SEAL THIS CRACK IN THE SKY.
CAN YOU DO THAT, DEATHSTORM?
I'D HAVE TO ABSORB AN INORDINATE AMOUNT OF LIFE ENERGY TO ATTEMPT SOMETHING AS COMPLICATED AS THAT, BUT YES, PROVIDING THIS IS OUR DESTRUCTOR'S ONLY ATTEMPT AT BREAKING THROUGH THE MULTIVERSE--
--I CAN HEAL THIS DIMENSIONAL INCISION.
MASTER THOMAS, SIR?
GO AHEAD, ALFRED.
DON'T ALERT THE SYNDICATE; BUT... YOU NEED TO COME BACK TO THE WATCHTOWER. HA. RIGHT AWAY.
WHAT IS IT?
I TOLD GRID YOU WANTED RICHARD GRAYSON PROTECTED, BUT...
...YOU NEED TO SEE...

"...YOU NEED TO SEE WHAT THEY'VE *DONE* TO *NIGHTWING*."
IT'S QUIET.
RR.
WHAT'S B-ZERO RR-ING ABOUT? DID THEY SPOT US?
NO ONE
HOME.
SINCE WHEN DID YOUR MONSTER START *TALKING*, LUTHOR?
AND IN THE CATEGORY OF THINGS THAT *MATTER*, IF THE CRIME SYNDICATE'S NOT HERE, WHERE ARE THEY?
MAYBE AFTER SINESTRO WHACKED THEIR WANNABE LANTERN THE SYNDICATE GOT SPOOKED AND TOOK OFF.
ULTR'M'N WOODN'T RNN.
ULTRAMAN WOULD NOT *RUN*?
CURIOUS HOW *EMOTIONALLY REVERSED* THEIR *POWER RING* WAS TO *HAL JORDAN* IN EVERY WAY, YET THEIR *"SUPERMAN"* SEEMS AS DRIVEN AS THE KRYPTONTIAN YOU SPEND YOUR LIFE *CHASING*, LUTHOR.
I DON'T "CHASE" SUPERMAN, SINESTRO. YOUR PERCEPTION OF ME IS MISTAKEN--
NEVER.
RING, LOCATE VIBRATIONAL ANOMALIES--SPECIFICALLY THE SYNDICATE MEMBERS.
SEARCHING...

ANOMALIES LOCATED.
SIX HEARTBEATS OF ABNORMAL VIBRATIONAL FREQUENCY CURRENTLY 142 MILES NORTH.
TWO LOCATED IN THE STRUCTURE AHEAD.
THAT'S EIGHT. WITHOUT POWER RING, THERE SHOULD ONLY BE SEVEN OF THEM LEFT, RIGHT? ASSUMING THAT ROBOT-THING DOESN'T HAVE A HEART.
SO IS THERE STILL ONE WE HAVEN'T MET?
THERE'S A MANUAL SHUTOFF TO THE SECURITY SYSTEMS I PUT IN.
I CAN PROGRAM IT TO LOOP THE VIDEO FEEDS FOR ONE MINUTE BEFORE CUTTING THE LINES.
"THAT GIVES US A SIXTY-SECOND WINDOW BEFORE THEY KNOW WE'RE INSIDE."
OWLMAN WAS INSISTENT THAT NIGHTWING WAS TO BE LEFT ALONE, GRID.
YES, YOUR MASTER WAS VERY CLEAR. AND RICHARD GRAYSON REMAINS UNHARMED.
"BUT ULTRAMAN WAS ALSO INSISTENT--HE WANTED NIGHTWING SECURED BEYOND A SIMPLE LOCK AND CHAIN."
WHY WOULD YOU DESIGN YOUR SECURITY SYSTEM WITH A MANUAL OVERRIDE, BATMAN?
UNLESS, OF COURSE, YOU THOUGHT YOU MIGHT HAVE TO TAKE ON THE JUSTICE LEAGUE YOURSELF ONE DAY?
"SO I MOVED NIGHTWING TO A MORE SECURE ROOM."
BATMAN?
WHERE'S HE GOING?
I'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM, COLD. YOU ALL SPLIT UP. FIND THE SYNDICATE MEMBERS--AND KILL THEM.
"AND I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF ACCESSING S.T.A.R. LABS' NUMEROUS FILES ON APOKOLIPTIAN TECHNOLOGY."
OH, MY GOD.
"I FOUND AN INESCAPABLE DEVICE."
RR.
WELL, BATMAN...

"IT'S CALLED THE MURDER MACHINE."
...YOU'VE FOUND NIGHTWING.

I DEMAND YOU...WHAT NOW?
KRZZZZZZZZ
THE LOCALIZED SECURITY CAMERAS ARE OUT.
SOMEONE IS HERE.
HOW?
OWLMAN? THE WATCHTOWER HAS BEEN INFILTRATED.
HA.
YOU NEED TO GET TO NIGHTWING AND KEEP HIM SAFE UNTIL I GET THERE. WE'LL DEAL WITH ULTRAMAN LATER.
BUT, MASTER THOMAS, EVEN IF I COULD FREE NIGHTWING FROM WHATEVER GRID'S DONE, THE PRISONER--
I DON'T CARE ABOUT OUR "PRISONER," ALFRED.
BUT IF HE'S SOMEHOW FREED--
PROTECT RICHARD GRAYSON.
I AM VERY SORRY, SIR, I TRULY AM. BUT FOR ONCE, THIS ONE TIME, I NEED TO DISOBEY YOU.
ALFRED--
YOU HAVE ALREADY LOST NEARLY EVERYTHING, THOMAS.
IF HE GETS LOOSE, YOU'LL LOSE YOUR LIFE, TOO.

HA?
CHKF
CHKF CHKF
CHKF CHKF CHKF
THEY ALL DIE.
YEAH, WE'LL, UH, GET THEM ALL, MANTA.
BUT...
...IS THAT ONE OF 'EM?

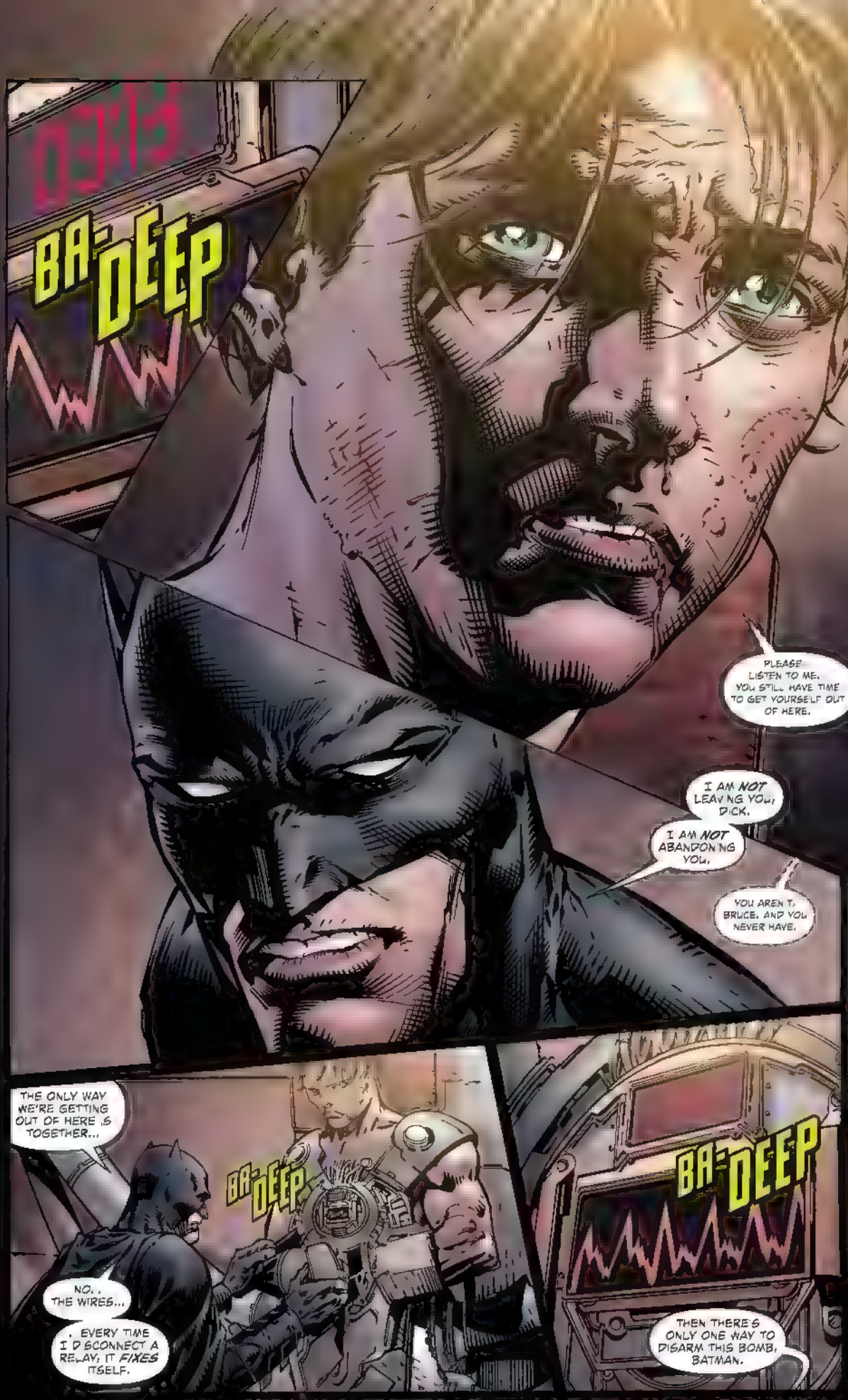
DICK? EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT, I'M HERE.
BATMAN?
I'M SORRY I SHUT YOU OUT. ALL OF YOU. I DIDN'T WANT YOU GETTING HURT.. I'M GOING TO GET YOU OUT OF THIS.
NO. YOU NEED TO.. LEAVE. YOU NEED TO GO..
THOOM
BA-DEEP
BA-DEEP
WHAT IS THAT?
BA-DEEP
IT'S A COUNTDOWN.
THIS ISN'T JUST A FANCY PAIR OF HANDCUFFS, CATWOMAN.
"IT'S A BOMB."
WARNING. UNSTABLE NUCLEAR ENERGY SOURCE DIRECTLY BELOW.
RING?
UNSTABLE NUCLEAR ENERGY SOURCE... WHAT'S IT TALKING ABOUT?
TERRESTRIAL METAHUMAN KNOWN AS FIRESTORM.
SO WHAT'S HE DOING HERE--?
WARNING. IMMINENT THREAT. SIX ABNORMAL VIBRATIONAL FREQUENCY READINGS RAPIDLY APPROACHING.
DOES THAT MEAN WHAT I THINK IT DOES?

HEY, HONEY! WE'RE
HOO-OOOME!

JOHNNY: ATOMICA, I CAN HEAR OTHERS INSIDE.
WE'RE ON IT, ULTRABRO!
AAHHH!
S'NESTRO.
I W'NT ULTR'M'N!
KRAAKOOOMMM
RELAX NOW, RING WIELDER
SUBMIT YOUR WILL TO ME.
YES, . . WE WILL SEE ABOUT THAT.
BOOM
OWLMAN?!

"WHERE ARE YOU GOING?"
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND
I'M GOING TO DISARM IT AND GET YOU OUT OF HERE, DICK.
THE DOOR. THE WALLS.
WHY CAN'T WE BREAK THROUGH THEM?
HAMM
THIS CELL WAS DESIGNED TO HOLD DOOMSDAY, AUTHOR.
BA-DEEP
IS THE COUNTDOWN MONITORING HIS HEART?
YES.
WHY?
THE DETONATOR IS HOOKED INTO IT.
BATMAN THE BOMB.
BA-DEEP
IT ONLY DISARMS IF MY HEART STOPS.

"I DIE...OR WE ALL DIE."
WHO IS HE?
I THINK HE'S TRYING TO TELL US.
mmpGg.
AH AH, BOYS!
DO NOT TOUCH!
„OOK! THEY KILLED THE OUTSIDER'
I DID.
WHO THE HE... ARE YOU? BAD HELMET MAN?
AND THAT WAS RHETORICA...


BA-DEEP
PLEASE... LISTEN TO ME. YOU STILL HAVE TIME TO GET YOURSELF OUT OF HERE.
I AM NOT LEAVING YOU, DICK.
I AM NOT ABANDONING YOU.
YOU AREN'T, BRUCE. AND YOU NEVER HAVE.
THE ONLY WAY WE'RE GETTING OUT OF HERE IS TOGETHER...
BA-DEEP
BA-DEEP
NO... THE WIRES...
...EVERY TIME I DISCONNECT A RELAY, IT FIXES ITSELF.
THEN THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO DISARM THIS BOMB, BATMAN.

SHRAAKK
NGGGFF!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, LUTHOR?
WA-KRAK
RRR.
I'M MAKING AN EXECUTIVE DECISION, CATWOMAN.
I'M SAVING OUR LIVES.
BA-NEEP
..BY ENDING HIS.
I'M SORRY, MR. GRAYSON.

I'M TRYING TO FIND A WAY INTO THIS ONE'S BLOODSTREAM. YOU KNOW, CLOG HIS HEART OR PUNCTURE HIS LUNGS FROM THE INSIDE OUT.
BUT HIS SUIT'S WATERTIGHT. EVEN ON A MICROSCOPIC LEVEL, IT'S COMPLETELY SEALED.
THERE MUST BE A TEAR OR A PINHOLE IN IT SOMEWHERE. YOU'LL FIND IT. YOU ALWAYS DO.
YOU KNOW, SNART, I KILLED YOU ON MY WORLD TOO.
YOU WERE A COP.
NO, IT'S NOT. A LOT OF GUYS SHOOT ICE. BUT I DON'T FREEZE THINGS. I ELIMINATE MOVEMENT ALTOGETHER. I STOP ATOMS COLD.
I AM THE MAN WHO MASTERED ABSOLUTE ZERO.
WHICH ABSOLUTELY DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU DON'T HAVE YOUR FINGER ON THE TRIGGER.
NAW.
JINGLE BELLS, BATMAN SMELLS.
KLAK
VOICE TRIGGER ACTIVATED
THOUGH YOU DIDN'T HAVE A LAME-ASS FREEZE-GUN.
IT'S NOT A FREEZE-GUN, SK D-MARK, IT'S A COLD-GUN.
SAME DIFFERENCE.

KRAKK
AAAHHHH!
YOU THINK THAT HURTS?
KRRRSSHHH
WAIT UNTIL IT THAWS OUT.
SEE, THE FLASH AND I GOT MUTUAL RESPECT. THAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN YOU AND HIM. BES DES HAVING TWO LEGS.
JOHNNY?!

BA-DEEP
LUTHOR?!
FWOOSH
LUTHOR, YOU HURT HIM AND I WILL KILL YOU!
BA-DEEP

LOOK AT HIM, ATOMICA. YOUR PRECIOUS SPEED DEMON.
HE [illegible]-- HE'LL NEVER RUN AGAIN.
YOU. YOU TOOK THE TAPE OFF HIM?! ARE YOU INSANE?!
PUT IT BACK ON! SHUT HIM UP!
"WE NEED TO FIND ULTRAMAN."
BA-BEEP
ULTRAMAN!
IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE US, BATMAN.
BA-DEEEEEP
MAZAHS!!!

00:03
EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE
DICK?!
THE DARK LIGHTNING!
KRAK-KOOM
AAIEEE!
THE PRISONER IS FREE!!

NO!
EEEE

NO MORE RUNNING, JOHNNY.
YOU EVIL BOY.
SNAP
I HAVE THIS UNDER CONTROL... GRAYSON...
KK!
YOUR LIFE IS OVER...AND YOUR POWER IS MINE...
...LIKE SO MANY OF THE SYNDICATE MEMBERS BEFORE YOU.
WHO ARE YOU?
IT'S NOT TOO LATE, YOU IDIOT.
YOU IDIOTS.

I AM GOING TO KILL EVERY SINGLE ONE OF YOU.
AND ALEXANDER LUTHOR SHALL BE THE MOST POWERFUL HERO YOUR WORLD HAS EVER SEEN!
DC COMICS PROUDLY PRESENTS
FOREVER EVIL
CHAPTER SIX: THE POWER OF MAZAHS!
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CHANNEL 52 INVESTIGATIVE REPORT!
WHO ARE THE RED LANTERNS...
...AND WHAT ARE THEY SO MAD ABOUT?
WORD HAS IT THAT THESE CRIMSON CRUSADERS ARE TAKING OVER FROM THE GREEN LANTERNS AS EARTH'S COSMIC POLICE FORCE!
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU? AND WHAT ABOUT THEIR NEWEST RECRUIT...SUPERGIRL!!!
THAT'S AN INTERESTING COSTUME CHANGE FOR SUPERGIRL! HOW WILL SHE TAKE TO ALL THE NAPALM AND FIRE-BREATHING THE RED LANTERNS ARE SO FOND OF? CHANNEL 52 WANTS TO KNOW!
UGH... I THINK I'M GOING TO BE SICK!

WHAT'S NEXT?

The first-ever meeting between Earth 2 refugees The Huntress and Power Girl and the Superman and Batman of The New 52! Continuing from last month's explosive start – FIRST CONTACT continues in the pages of Batman/Superman #9 and Worlds' Finest #21! Superman and Batman must confront the truth about Earth 2 while Huntress and Power Girl must finally accept their place in a world that is not their own. A story this big can't be contained to one adventure, so be sure to check out FIRST CONTACT to see hints at what's coming up the rest of the year in The New 52! Fans of Earth 2 will want to pay special attention to these issues!

DC COMICS ALL ACCESS

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SON OF ULTRON